

# Circus Opens Full of Fun And Glitter

Animals Have Their Easter Parade a Day Ahead, and Youngsters Throng Garden to See the Wonders

## Humor Rivals the Thrills

Troop of Clowns Keeps Things Jolly, While Air Is Full of Daring Stunts

Stealing a march on the Easter parade, the animals, acrobats, freaks and clowns made their formal spring bow in Madison Square Garden yesterday afternoon. It seemed as if most of the kids in town were there to give them a good start on their five weeks' jollification. The only indifferent figure in the Garden was John Daniel, the new gorilla. In spite of his fame he was not trundled around in his baby cot with the rest of the parade, but lay in the side show, occasionally raising a languid paw to indicate to the curious that he was alive.

From the moment the parade started, with its gay panoply and glitter to the final trapeze acts, things went at a merry pace. There was the air of a first-day festivity that is strongest before the shingles have begun to fall and the splendor of the clowns has been dimmed in the sawdust trail. It may be the same old circus every year, with each turn worn threadbare, but the thrills endure. Children spread the various infections and staid grown-ups recapture a moment of their youth.

Led by the impressive busied band, the historical pageant gradually unrolled around the sawdust trail. Mailed knights of the Middle Ages and fair Guineveres swept by. Centuries followed and one fashion after another, until the parade suddenly took a whimsical turn and the spoofs of Hallowe'en appeared—pumpkin heads and ghosts. Then came the motley crew of buffoons, with a hundred new tricks to beguile the public, and foolishness that drew a chuckle from the oldest and most sedate.

The same fat old policemen, with collapsible figures; the same foolish get-up that is to be found wherever the circus tent is pitched. The fifty clowns include madcaps, jesters, fools, wags, jokers, harlequins, pickle-herings, holy-frights, skylarkers, clumps, cut-ups, Merry Andrews, Sunny Sims, Simple Simons and giddy-gads. Best the vocabulary does not matter. Clowns are clowns, and they are as silly and delightful as usual this year, except that their wardrobe is more elaborate than it ever was before. Mr. Ringling must have spent a lot of time getting his clowns into their dazzling new spring clothes this year.

One of the clowns had shed their luster along the trail, leaving a stream of quips and jests on the way, the freaks ambled in. The well known characters of other years were all there, and a few new ones. There were the armless, the legless, the three-legged, the mid-gets, the giants and a handsome new giantess in a red velvet dress, to say nothing of the heavyweights.

One of the other came the wild man, the skeleton man, the African bushman and as many of nature's oddities as the Ringling Brothers and Barnum & Bailey succeeded in collecting in a long stretch of years. A special welcome was given to cunning little Mr. and Mrs. Doll, who are so afraid of losing each other that the good-natured agent has to keep them string together, it were. The fat man and the fat woman are fatter and pinker than ever. The freaks are a happy family, all right. Mr. Doll's wife is a little thing that he impeded the parade until Mr. Doll swung him on his shoulder and carried him triumphantly around the ring.

When the human parade reached its end and the animals came along in sleek and satiny condition. And then the performance started in good earnest with little, snarling tigers from the African jungle, man-eating lions and polar bears full of tricks.

One of the best things in the circus this year is the performance of the Hungarian horses trained by Adolph Hess. They go through a maze of intricate drill and formation with the skill of a company of soldiers. The dogs go through their paces with the driven air of all circus dogs, as if they hated it but had to do what their master tells them. "Toque" rode, leaped and juggled like a man, and "Chloe" the clown dog, came as near to laughing as is possible for a canine.

A new feature is the Australian outdoor sport of wood chopping. Stalwart axmen who have outchopped all their rivals in the antipodes have come to America to outdo their own records. There is a breath-taking competition, since the race is so close.

Acrobatic feats are more varied than they ever were. According to the circus press agent a "twirling, swirling, pyramiding troupe of whirlwind athletes and rapid-fire tumblers" might be expected. It transpired that their momentum almost equaled that of the press agent's language. One of the gymnasts, who is a graceful and daring acrobat of the first order. Suspended at dizzy heights, she breaks the laws of gravity, seeming to cast her body over her own shoulder scores of times without a pause. The Act Beautiful show, Miss Ena Claren, a model of pulchritude and form, as the leading figure in the statue poses of snow-white horses, dogs and women.

Taking it all around, it is a circus that sends the blood coursing rapidly through the veins and makes spring a reality. It is a joyous effort for every age and every temperament. Even the little duds try to be jolly about it whether they like it or not. And as for the boys and girls—well, it's their circus.

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# Petite Bohemian Miss Thrills Circus Crowds



Lillian Leitzell  
Famous girl aerialist with Ringling Brothers-Barnum & Bailey

## Helped His Mother Kill Stepfather, Says Boy, 14

Grand Rapids Police Declare He Confessed Using Ax and Putting Body on Rails

GRAND RAPIDS, Mich., March 26.—Caspar Didia, fourteen years old, confessed to-day, according to the police, that he helped his mother kill his stepfather, Joseph Scabius, last night. Then, according to the confession, he and his brother James, nine years old, placed the body in a toy wagon and carted it to the railroad yards, where they left it. The body was found early to-day by a switching crew.

He was awakened during the night, Caspar declared, by a quarrel between his mother and stepfather. He struck him with an ax and a shovel and my mother hit him with a stick," the police quote him as saying. "Then my brother and I carried the body away in the cart."

Mrs. Scabius and the two boys were arrested shortly after the body was found.

The woman later corroborated the boy's story, saying she struck her husband with a rolling pin after he had been felled by Caspar with an ax and the younger son had hit him with a coal shovel that she instructed the boys to cart the body to the railroad tracks.

## Calder and Harding Talk About Shipping Board

Senator Said to Have Recommended R. A. C. Smith; President Greets Students

From The Tribune's Washington Bureau.  
WASHINGTON, March 26.—Senator Calder called at the White House to-day to discuss appointments to the Shipping Board. He urged the appointment of a New York man to the board. Senator Calder on leaving the White House made no statement as to the particular man he supported. In other quarters it was said he had urged the merits of R. A. C. Smith.

The President continued to keep the latching out to callers. A multitude of high school and college students in Washington for the Easter vacation. Hundreds of them visited the White House and were received by the President. Old attaches of the White House said it looked like a New Year's reception of the days of Taft and Roosevelt.

One party of about 100 students and other callers were shown about the east room of the White House. Mrs. Harding while passing through the hallway to a waiting automobile saw them and informed the head usher she would like personally to greet the visitors. A line was formed and Mrs. Harding shook hands with each member of the party.

The visiting crowds were presented by Senators McKinley, of Illinois, Sterling, of South Dakota; Ball, of Delaware; Frelinghuysen, of New Jersey, and others.

## Cleveland Bread Prices Cut

CLEVELAND, March 26.—A pound and a half loaf of bread will cost 10 cents and a pound loaf 8 cents beginning Monday, a drop of 3 cents on the large loaf and 2 cents on the small loaf, was announced by retailers to-day following a reduction by wholesalers of 2 cents on both loaves, effective Monday.

## New Pay Scale for Federal Employees To Be Considered

WASHINGTON, March 26.—A bill to fix new wage standards for all government employees is to be one of the first measures before Congress. Salary scales in general, according to plans outlined, will be raised, but wages for several classes of employees may be reduced.

Senator Smoot, Republican, of Utah, with the aid of Treasury experts, is preparing a bill for the reclassification of government salaries. It is the plan to raise the pay of Federal employees from lump sums, at salaries fixed at the will of bureau chiefs, and also to dispense with the bonus system adopted during the war.

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A. R. Walty, Manager

# Norway Chafes Over U. S. Delay On Ship Claims

\$2,000,000 Offer Termed Ridiculous and an Insult; Arbitration Is Urged by Norwegian Government

## Two Groups Are Involved

Head of Stray Interests Has Finished Writing of a Book on the Subject

Norwegian shipping claims against the American government, as viewed from a Norwegian standpoint, are outlined in a recent report from Christiania.

The Norwegian Foreign Office is stated to have announced that the Norwegian Minister to Washington, H. Bryn, who had rendered also to Mr. Stray and his associates valuable assistance, in recognition of which he was presented with handsome gifts on a recent visit to Norway, on December 2, 1919, filed a note of protest with the State Department, referring to the existing disputes between the two countries, dating as far back as 1827.

"No progress was made through the friendly negotiations, and the patience of the contract owners is now exhausted. As a coincidence it may be added that Mr. Stray, whose intelligent and skillful representations induced the American government to give his constituents a fair deal after only about two years of hesitation, has recently finished the writing of a book on this matter, containing a copy of the correspondence exchanged and dealing thoroughly with the question of requisition under international law. It is printed in the English language and will undoubtedly attract much importance to anybody interested in this subject."

## Coal Trade Slump Laid Directly to Consumer

WASHINGTON, March 26.—Consumers and not the railroads, the operators or the miners are responsible for present depression in the bituminous coal industry, Dr. George Otis Smith, director, and P. G. Tryon, coal statistician of the Geological Survey, declared in a statement issued here to-night.

A policy of "buy only as needed" is being pursued, dangerously by bituminous consumers, the statement says. Empty coal bins will be the result, it was said, should a sudden industrial upturn develop, as in such event the mines would be unable to produce and the railroads unable to carry sufficient coal.

Reports of bituminous production this month, the statement said, show constant declines, 6,529,000 tons being the production for the week ending March 19, as contrasted with a weekly production of around 12,000,000 tons several months ago.

The depression in the bituminous industry, the statement said, has resulted in "a veritable army of unemployed."

## Slugs and Robs Saloon Man Who Refuses Him a Drink

Frank Woods, of 225 Brown Place, the Bronx, entered the saloon of Jake Malaga, at 1785 Third Avenue, with four other men at 10 o'clock last night and asked for a drink.

Malaga told him he couldn't get it. Woods, it is said, then struck Malaga on the head with a blackjack. He also is alleged to have indicated \$100 from the saloon proprietor's pocket and smashed the mirror behind the bar.

Woods's companion ran, but Woods seemed contented to remain at the saloon. He was later taken to the East 104th Street station. He was charged with assault and robbery. The detectives said he was intoxicated.

## 600,000 Tons Requisitioned

Reviewing what are described as "some of the difficulties which these unfortunate ship owners have met in the United States," the Norwegian correspondent states that during 1916 and the first half of 1917 about eighty contracts, totalling between 600,000 tons and 700,000 tons, were placed in American yards for Norwegian account, chiefly in order to cover war losses. On August 3, 1917, when the United States government requisitioned the output of the shipbuilding industry, only forty-two new buildings were left on Norwegian hands, the balance having either been sold to foreigners, principally the Cunard Line, or already entered on the Norwegian registry.

Twenty-seven Norwegian contract-owners formed a group under the auspices of the Norwegian Shipowners' Association, which sent a delegation to the United States, headed by the well-known ship owner, Emil Stray. The combine was later on designated the Stray-group.

"In June, 1919," it is stated, "Mr.

Stray succeeded in obtaining for his constituents a compensation of \$34,500,000, based upon an average price of \$237 a ton. For reasons which could not fully be explained here, the other fifteen Norwegian contract-owners, hit by the requisition order, separated and formed a Christiania-group, and tried in vain to obtain a settlement of their claims through special channels.

It resulted in a request to the Norwegian government to take over the representation of their interests. The Norwegian Minister at Washington, H. Bryn, who had rendered also to Mr. Stray and his associates valuable assistance, in recognition of which he was presented with handsome gifts on a recent visit to Norway, on December 2, 1919, filed a note of protest with the State Department, referring to the existing disputes between the two countries, dating as far back as 1827.

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## Body of Man Found in Water Thought To Be Missing Sailor

The body of an unidentified man which was found in the Wallabout Basin yesterday afternoon is believed to be that of Winfield Scott Cook, thirty-five years old, of 582 Throop Avenue, Brooklyn, formerly employed as an engineer by the Ward Steamship Line. He disappeared February 9.

A description given the Missing Persons Bureau of Cook at the time of his disappearance is said to fit that of the man taken from the basin.

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B. A soft, luxurious, quilted Lounging Robe of Crepe de Chine lined throughout with Silk and interlined. Various colors. Special, 17.50

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Negligees of heavy quality Crepe Meteor whose only adornment is Silk Tassels. Light Blue, Pink, Rose, French Blue and Orchid. Also in Wistaria and Black. Special, 14.75

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# British Fear U. S. Will Hold Gains in Export Coal Trade

American Product Offered to European Countries at Prices Much Under Those of Welsh Miners' Output

British alarm over the growth made in the export coal trade by this country in the past year is reflected by many recent reports from Great Britain. The Welsh coal-mining industry is especially apprehensive of the outlook.

That the United States is determined to maintain its grip on the European coal trade is evident, it is stated. Reports from Wales are to the effect that a combination of American coal owners has offered to Italian and other buyers a five years' agreement at prices much below the figure at which Welsh coal can be supplied, and on long terms of credit.

"South Wales is not in a position to make any counter offer," it is stated, "and if the American syndicate is successful in making a binding agreement for five years it is obvious that the Welsh coalfields will suffer severely."

At present, it is pointed out, the Welsh industry is in the worst condition of any in the United Kingdom, because the cost of production is the highest there. When free of restrictions the Welsh market was essentially an export market, more than two-thirds of the output being shipped to foreign countries or used as bunkers in foreign-going ships.

The Welsh coalfields have never had a large domestic trade, except during the last year, when the British government created an artificial situation and ordered that Welsh coal was to be used exclusively for bunkering at London, Liverpool and other ports, and also required a great deal of Welsh coal to be consumed for consumption on the British railways and by other home consumers. Now the Welsh coal trade is hard hit, because the artificial demand has ceased. Most of the works in the district have either closed down entirely or have greatly restricted their output.

As regards the export trade, it is stated that France has practically ceased to import Welsh coal, and has turned to other countries, which have not shown enough vitality to pick up the trade on a steady basis.

As against an output of more than a million tons in early December, the South Wales coalfield recently has been producing 700,000 tons weekly, and market cannot be found even for this quantity, although prices have fallen very sharply.

San Lorenzo Making Speed  
The Porto Rico liner San Lorenzo, with 200 passengers, will arrive in New York on her first round trip to Porto Rico to-morrow. On her outward bound journey the San Lorenzo made the run from New York to San Lorenzo in four days, which is a record since the war, and she is expected to keep this record on the return trip. The San Lorenzo, which was formerly the Brazos, has been equipped to hold oil for fuel.

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4 Piece Reed Suite—Frosted Brown, upholstered in Tapestry, \$180.00

6 Piece Reed Suite—Frosted Grey, upholstered in Cretonne, \$275.00

Reed Chairs and Rockers—Antique Ivory or Frosted Brown, upholstered in Cretonne, \$20.00

Willow Arm Chairs—Natural, \$9.50

Reed Chairs and Rockers—Baronial Brown (Cretonne upholstery), 16.50

6 Piece Reed Suite—Canary and Grey, upholstered in Cretonne, \$325.00

3 piece Reed Suite—Green, upholstered in Cretonne, \$147.50

3 Piece Old Hickory Porch Set—Settee, Arm Chair and Side Chair, \$18.75

Old Hickory Arm Chairs, \$7.50

Chaise Lounges (Natural Willow) \$22.50

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70x70 inches. Formerly 10.00	\$5.90	70x88 inches. Formerly 13.50	\$9.75
70x70 inches. Formerly 49.75	\$6.75	70x108 inches. Formerly 16.00	11.50

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